



St. Jérôme Church of England Bilingual Primary School

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To: All Parents and Carers
St. Jérôme Church of England Bilingual Primary School

Sunday 19th April 2020

Dear parents and carers,

I hope you are all well and you are enjoying spending time with your family, connecting digitally with friends and family and have enjoyed the celebration of Easter. Thank you to everyone who is staying at home and also those who are working at this time as part of the response to COVID-19.

As we near the end of what would have been the Easter break and the beginning of the Trinity Term, it's time to start looking ahead. I would like to thank you all for supporting our navigation in this new world of distance learning. Tomorrow the new term will begin and learning, for all school-aged children across the country, will look very different. Schools are currently responsible for providing places for some vulnerable children, and children of workers critical to the COVID-19 response. **We are set to remain closed, for most children, until we are directed otherwise.**

Because of our dedicated staff we have been able to remain open, including throughout the Easter holidays, including welcoming children from other local schools, to support those children in most need of care. Teachers have also developed resources to support distance learning at home to ensure your children stay connected with the curriculum, from their new home classrooms whilst juggling their own family's needs. I would like to personally thank the staff for enabling this to happen.

The next stage for St Jérôme School pupils will ensure that distance learning remains fun, appropriate and manageable. We will continue to upload weekly learning to the school website and specific activities will be shared on Year Group Home Learning Pages. You can find these pages on the 'parent information' tab.

The screenshot shows the school's website with a navigation menu at the top: HOME, OUR COMMUNITY, OUR SCHOOL, LEARNING, ADMISSIONS, PARENT INFORMATION, NEWS, CONTACT. The main content area features the school crest, a 'WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL' heading, and a quote from Revd Daniel Norris MBA, NPQH: "We believe our school to be an aspirational, multilingual school that empowers everyone: to grow and flourish, to gain skills and to translate the love of God for all people into words and actions." Below this is a vertical menu with links for 'OUR NEWSLETTERS AND LETTERS HOME', 'OUR CALENDAR', 'ST. JÉRÔME STORYTIME', 'WORSHIP AT HOME', 'SINGING AT HOME', 'RECEPTION - HOME LEARNING', 'YEAR 1 - HOME LEARNING', 'YEAR 2 - HOME LEARNING', 'YEAR 3 - HOME LEARNING', and 'HOME LEARNING - YOUR WORK'. A large blue banner asks 'HAVE YOU HEARD TODAY'S STORY?' with a 'CLICK HERE' button. Below this is a 'RECENT NEWS' section with a 'READ ALL NEWS' button and three news items: a plate of fruit, a tree in a pot, and a Palm Sunday illustration.

In addition to the learning activities for each year group, staff have been busy recording stories for children to enjoy and also uploading resources for worship at home and for singing at home. There will be many more resources appearing on the school website in the coming weeks. Please do interact with us during this period using the homelearning@stjeromebilingual.org email address. This is monitored regularly and staff will respond. It has been great to see some of the learning that children have already been doing at home. We will feature home learning on the school website.

We are currently exploring with a publisher the opportunity to provide you with free reading books online and hope to have this in place as soon as possible to support reading at home.

Distance learning is not the same as school learning and you are not expected to replicate the school experience for your child(ren). You need to find a timetable that works for your family enabling you to manage your home, your own work commitments and distance learning for your child/children. Please do not feel under pressure to complete every activity or suggestion and try not to be overwhelmed by the amount of activities and suggestions of things you could be doing that currently abound. We are here to support you and want to keep things manageable. Please simply do what you can. When life for us all gets back to a degree of normality, we will ensure that learning throughout the school gets back on track to where it needs to be and that your child will quickly catch-up with the key concepts that need to have been taught for their age.

If you are experiencing any difficulties, please be in touch with us by email and we will do our best to help. Don't forget the office can still be contacted via email at office@stjeromebilingual.org.

As things progress and we receive further guidance from the government and the Local Authority, I will write to inform you.

We miss you all immensely and we cannot wait for the day when we can open our gates and welcome you back. Please pray for us as we pray for you. For now, please take care, stay at home and stay safe.

With warm regards,



Revd. Daniel Norris

Executive Headteacher